

SWAP SHOP



The Claymore mine, as issued, is not ready to be employed efficiently in a tactical situation. It comes tightly rolled around a spool, and it takes too much time to unravel from the spool. The most common problem is that the wire gets caught on the mine or entangled in itself.

The following technique combines various methods and proved effective during a CALFEX conducted by the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, 10th Mountain Division, in August 1997.

- After testing the mine, take everything out of the bag. Make it one large pouch by removing the stitching from the middle. Put the mine into the bag; cutting holes so the legs of the mine can stick through it when extended (Figure 1). Extend the legs through the holes and fold them under the bag.

- Unwrap the wire from the spool. Remove the green instruction sheet that comes under the cover of the bag (tearing along the perforated edge), and use it to form a protective cover for the blasting cap. Tie the blasting cap end of the wire to the left handle of the bag (use an overhand knot), leaving 10 inches from the knot to the blasting cap. Place the now-protected blasting cap in the bag behind the mine (Figure 2).

- Take the wire 10 inches from the blasting cap end, make a loop by twisting the wire, then reach through the loop and pull the running end of the wire through it. Reach through this bite and pull the running end of the wire through it. Continue in this manner, forming the entire length of the wire into a daisy chain (Figure 3). End the daisy chain roll 10 inches from the connector.

- Tie the connector side of the wire 10 inches back from the connector to the right side of the bag's carrying handle with an

overhand knot (Figure 4), and then place the connector inside the bag behind the mine. Place the looped wire in the bag in front of the mine. Close the bag cover and button it. Ensure that the M57 firing device is not in the bag but in the firer's possession.

- When ready to employ the mine, grab the overhand knot on the right side of the carrying handle; pull out the connector and some slack from the wire. Tie the connector to a stake or tree branch and then place the bag under your right arm with the right side of the bag pointing back to the firing position. As you move to the mine emplacement location, the daisy chained wire will unravel without tangling.

- At the mine emplacement location, extend the legs of the claymore (which are folded under the bag) and emplace them in the ground. Open the bag cover. Remove the protective covering from the blasting cap, then place the cap in the cap well.

- Aim the mine and put the bag cover back over it. The bag camouflages the mine and will be destroyed when the mine is detonated.

- Return to the firing position and attach the connector to the M57 firing device. Fire when ready.

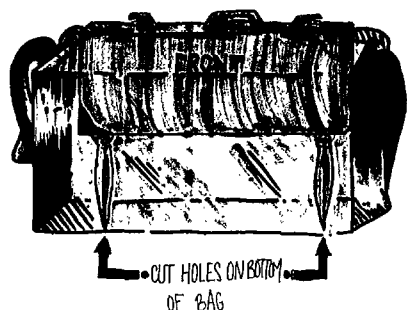


Figure 1



Figure 2

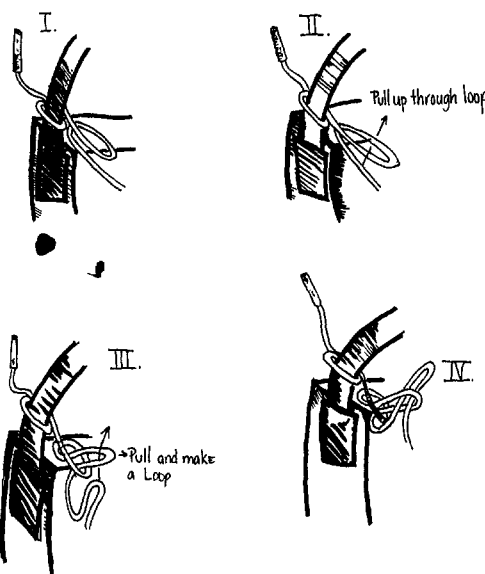


Figure 3

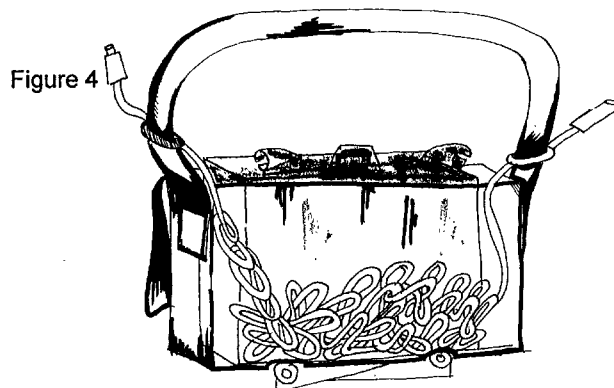


Figure 4

(Submitted by Platoon Sergeant Robert M. O'Donnell, 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, New York.)